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E18

CONFIDENTIAL

PTQ9369

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(D)

PAGE 01 CARACA 00925 01 OF 02 082151Z  
ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	INL-00	DODE-00	PERC-00
	DS-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCE-00
	AC-01	NSAE-00	ACE-00	USIE-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	/004W					

-----80EA50 082151Z /38

R 082131Z APR 02  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5376  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
INFO NSC WASHDC  
USCINCSO MIAMI FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 000925

FOR WHA/PDA (BYERS), WHA/AND (NARANJO), INR FOR JALCEDO  
NSC FOR AMB. MAISTO

E.O. 12958: DECL:04/08/12  
TAGS: KPAO, PREL, PHUM, VE  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH VENEZUELAN PRESS  
ASSOCIATION

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CHARLES S. SHAPIRO.  
REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

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2. (SBU) SUMMARY: THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH 28 OWNERS,  
PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS FROM THE VENEZUELAN PRESS  
ASSOCIATION (BLOQUE DE PRENSA VENEZOLANO, BPV) TO

B1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. R. LOHMAN, DAS, A/ISS  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ALAN H FLANIGAN  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 8 APR 2017  
DATE/CASE ID: 23 FEB 2007 200503643

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SUMMARY.

3. (SBU) AS HIS FIRST FORMAL MEETING WITH MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES, THE AMBASSADOR PAID A COURTESY CALL ON THE VENEZUELAN PRESS ASSOCIATION (BPV) ON APRIL 8. THE GROUP INCLUDED OWNERS AND EDITORS REPRESENTING 28 BPV MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALL MAJOR DAILIES (UNIVERSAL, NACIONAL, CAPRILES GROUP, ETC.) AND REGIONAL PAPERS FROM TACHIRA IN THE WEST TO THE ORINOCO DELTA IN THE EAST. THE AMBASSADOR'S VISIT WAS COVERED BY ALL VENEZUELAN BROADCAST AND MOST MAJOR PRINT MEDIA. THE BPV NOTED ITS APPRECIATION FOR USG EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR PRESS FREEDOM AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN VENEZUELA. THE AMBASSADOR REPEATED U.S. SUPPORT FOR FUNDAMENTAL DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES INCLUDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, AND NOTED THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEDIA

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ESPECIALLY IN THESE TIMES OF FLURRIES OF RUMORS OF COUPS AND STATES OF EXCEPTION. ONE EDITOR AGREED AND SAID THAT THE MEDIA'S HAVING NOT PUBLICIZED SUCH RUMORS WAS EVIDENCE OF THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

4. (SBU) DURING THE MEETING, THE AMBASSADOR REPEATEDLY STRESSED THAT U.S. POLICY WAS IN FAVOR OF CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURES AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS,

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INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	PERC-00	DS-00
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	ACE-00	IRM-00	USIE-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00

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SHAPIRO

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